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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/613,593	07/02/2003	James G. Wayne	CNVG-007CON2	7246

24353 7590 08/25/2005

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EXAMINER
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MENDOZA, MICHAEL G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3731

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/613,593

Applicant(s)

WHAYNE, JAMES G.

Examiner

Michael G. Mendoza

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19,21-58 and 60-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19,21-33,36-55,58 and 60-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 34, 35, 56, and 57 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. The indicated allowability of claims is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Fleischman et al. 6648900. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 19, 21-33, 36-55, 58, and 60-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fleischman et al.

4. Fleischman et al. teaches an anastomosis connector comprising: a base, a leading segment, a rear segment, and a hinge zone associated with the base and comprising a torsion member; at least one lateral portion positioned between the leading segment and the rear segment; wherein the lateral portions are contiguous with the leading segment; wherein the base defines an angle between a distal end of the graft and a portion of the host vessel adjacent the connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein the angle is less than about 90<sup>0</sup>; wherein the connector is adapted to draw the lateral portion inward relative to the base upon deflecting the rear

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segment about the hinge zone; wherein the base is fully capable of being compressed to a reduced size; wherein the rear segment is deflectable toward the leading segment; wherein the rear segment is deflectable away from the leading segment; wherein the connector comprises a wireform; at least one tab adapted to secure a graft to the connector; wherein the connector further comprises at least one tab adapted to secure a collar around a graft; further comprising a collar; wherein the collar comprises a split member; wherein the collar further comprises a member for interlocking with the connector; the connector comprise a biocompatible material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, titanium and titanium alloy; wherein the titanium alloy comprises NiTi (col. 8, lines 22-31); an instrument adapted to deflect the rear segment (1a – 2f); at least one torsion member is connect to the lateral portions; wherein the hinge zone comprises a pair of torsion members wherein each torsion member is positioned between the rear segment and the base; wherein the hinge zone comprises two pairs of torsion member wherein each pair is positioned between the rear segment and the base; wherein that at least one torsion member comprises a wire segment; wherein the at least one torsion member comprises a narrowed section the base; wherein the collar lateral portions interface with the connector lateral portions when the collar is operatively attached to the connector; and wherein the connector comprises a plurality of interconnected links having spaces therebetween.

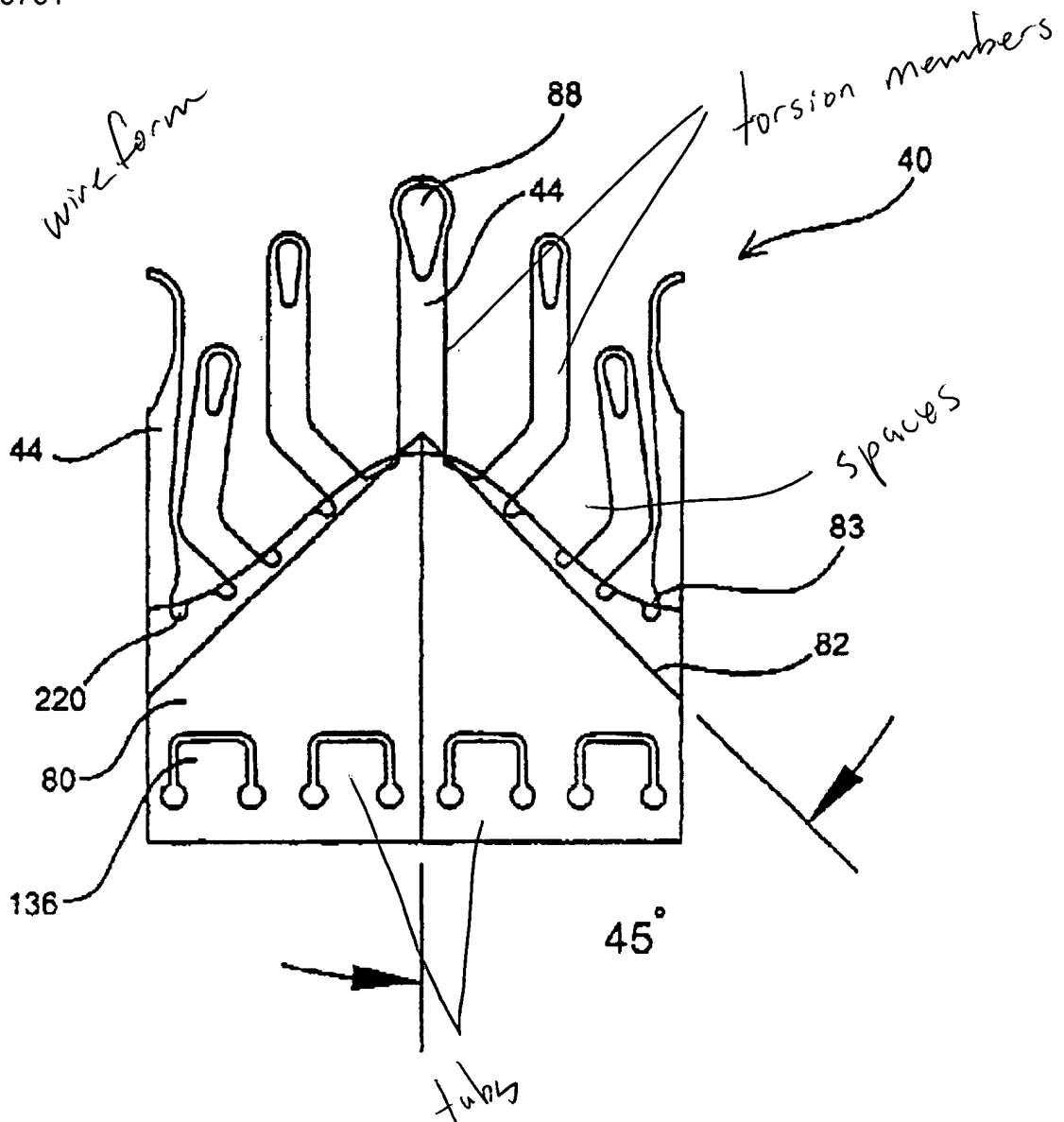


FIG. 5F

FIG. 14B

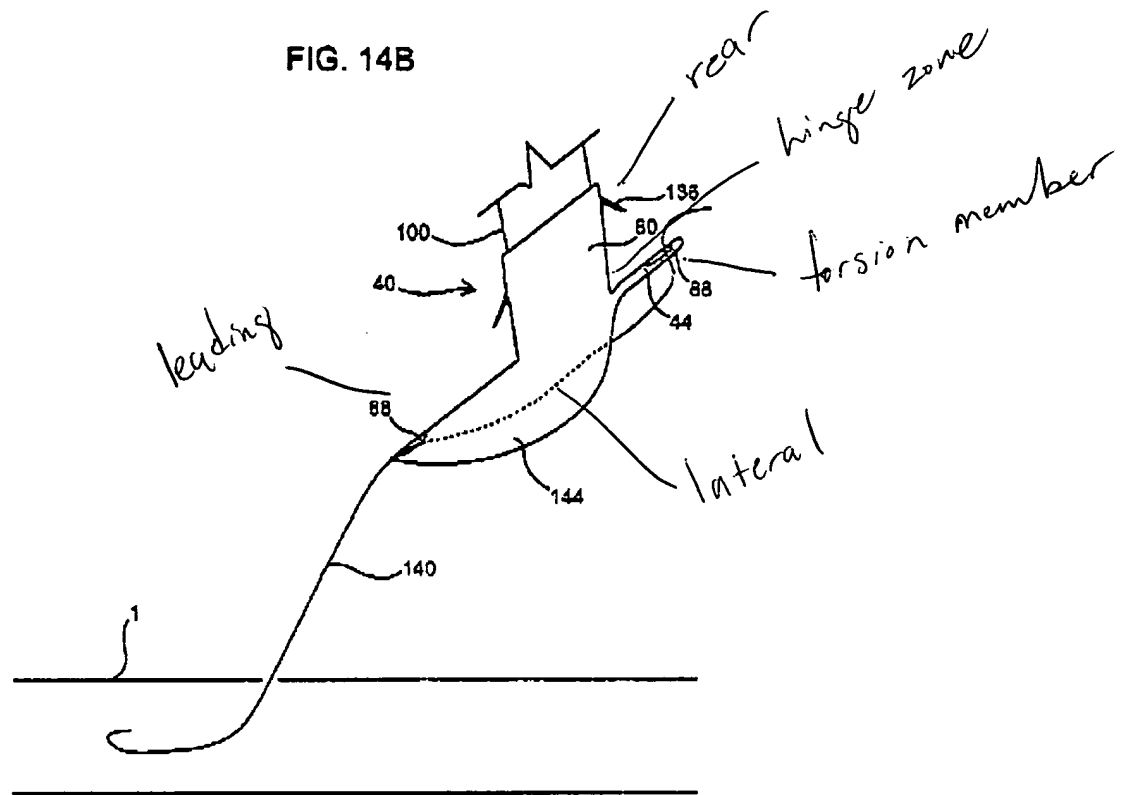


FIG. 14C

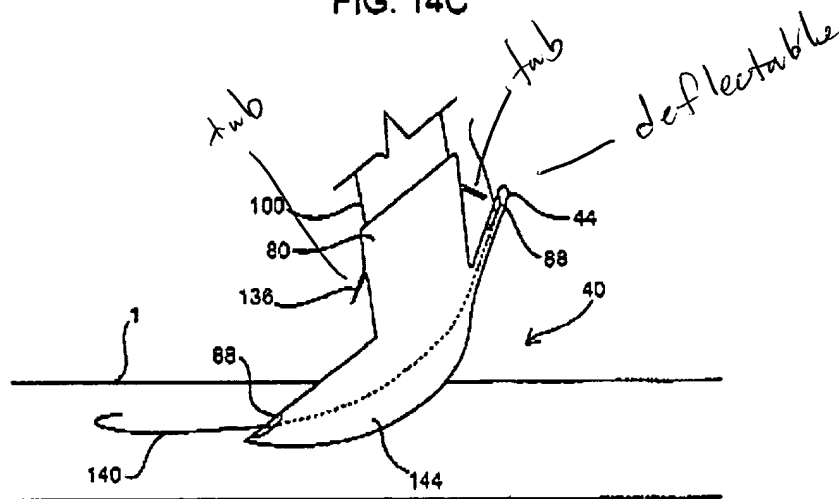


FIG. 14D

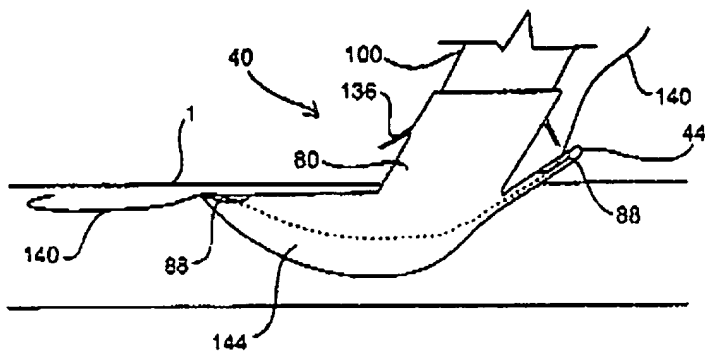


FIG. 14E

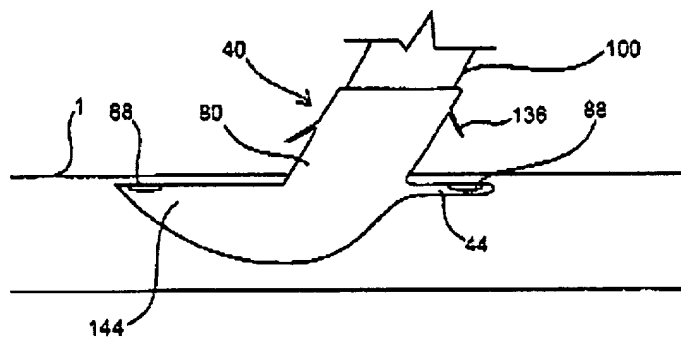
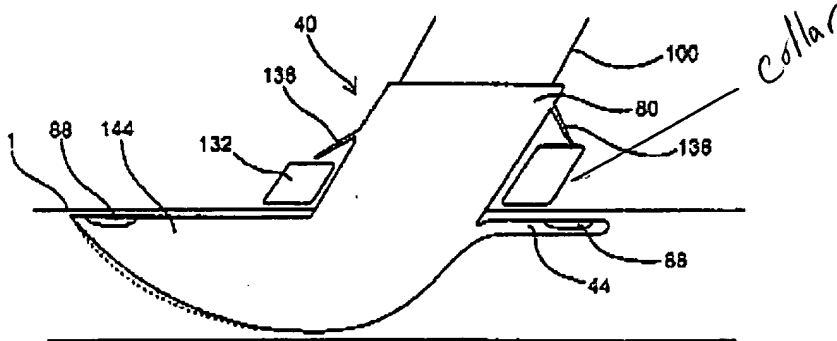


FIG. 14F



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***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 34, 35, 56, and 57 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Contacts***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael G. Mendoza whose telephone number is (571) 272-4698. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anh Tuan Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-44963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MM

  
ANH TUAN T. NGUYEN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
